APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TIME ORDERING EVENTS IN A SYSTEM HAVING MULTIPLE TIME DOMAINS

5   Abstract of the Disclosure

        A system and method time orders events that occur in various portions of the system (10) where different time domains (12, 22, 32) exist. Timestamping circuitry (e.g. 40) is provided in each of a plurality of functional circuits or

10   modules (14, 24, 34). The timestamping circuitry provides a message that indicates a point in time when a predetermined event occurs. An interface module (70) is coupled to each of the plurality of functional circuits (14, 24, 34). The interface module (70) provides control information to the plurality of functional circuits (14, 24, 34) to indicate at least one operating condition that

15   triggers the predetermined event, and to optionally specify a message format. The interface module (70) provides a timestamping message from one, several or all time domains at a common interface port (90).